

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A drop feed device ~~(1)~~, for a two-roll continuous strip casting machine, for feeding ~~one~~ an ingot mould ~~(15)~~ with molten metal, comprising a first distributor (3), having a substantially prismatic shape with one ~~of the open face faces~~ and having a rectangular shape in plan view, with elongated holes (10), having the shape of a slot, arranged on one or more side walls of the first distributor, ~~distributor (3) characterized in that~~ the inside of the first distributor (3) comprises at least three tanks ~~(4, 5, 6)~~, arranged along its longer dimension wherein two first tanks ~~(4, 6)~~ are arranged at the end of the first distributor (3) and at least one ~~further~~ intermediate tank (5) is set in an intermediate position with respect to the two first tanks ~~(4, 6)~~ in which wherein the ~~further~~ intermediate tank (5) is separated from the two first tanks ~~(4, 6)~~ by respective separating walls ~~(7, 8)~~, whose the dimensions are such as to cause their edges ~~(7', 8')~~ to perform a function of weir for passage of the molten metal between said intermediate tank ~~(5)~~, when it is full, and said two first tanks ~~(4, 6)~~, and in that the holes ~~(10)~~ are arranged in such a position and are of such dimensions and shape as to be able to perform a function of emptying the molten metal from said two first tanks ~~(4, 6)~~ towards the outside of the first distributor (3) before reaching a level equal to that of the edges ~~(7', 8')~~ of the separating walls ~~(7, 8)~~,

the drop feed device further comprising:

a second distributor having an elongated, substantially prismatic shape between the first distributor and the ingot mould, wherein the first distributor is immersed in the second distributor;

a discharger having a funnel-like shape, with an angle of divergence of its internal walls smaller than 7°, for discharging molten metal from a tundish or other container into the intermediate tank.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The device according to Claim 1, wherein some or all of the faces of the distributor (3) are mutually convergent.